

European that, notwithstanding the high price paid for it, the same amount expended in buying American iron would have been sufficient to supply the materials our shipbuilders could successfully compete with those of Great Britain in the construction of iron vessels of the same tonnage and speed of establishment. Another house in Wilmington, engaged altogether in the construction of iron ocean-going ships, employed from 400 to 700 hands.

John A. Cameron, Secretary of the United States of War under Secretary Cameron, now Vice President of the Reading Railroad, stated that his railroad had had built for it by the P. & W. two iron screw colliers about the same as the "Great" of construction would have been in Great Britain. They were now having built in the same works two others of a thousand tons each.

George Stockham, largely engaged in furnishing materials for the construction of wooden vessels, stated that the "Great" had cost him about \$100,000, and advanced about fifty per cent since the year 1861.

The Committee closed its investigation to-day, having visited and taken testimony in Portland, Boston, and New York in its tour. The testimony taken covers about 800 manuscript pages, and is now being printed in Washington.

The Committee also observed that decay in American shipping interests have in nearly every instance allowed themselves into three propensities:—

First—A drawback of the duty upon all materials imported for the construction of ships, and a subsidy equal to the amount of the duty when American materials are used.

Second—To purchase and admit to American registers; foreign built vessels.

Third—Subsidies to American lines of ocean steamers.

The Committee to-night proceed to Washington, and will, in due time, report their propositions for the reformation of Congress.

since the war. He has been engaged in dealing between that place and St. Albans and in various speculations. For six months past he has been an inspector of United States customs. He is now thirty-five, has a wife and three children and numerous relatives. He is spoken of as a freeny and peculiar; perhaps not quarrelsome, but quick. He was an unsafe man to carry concealed weapons. He served during the war in a Massachusetts regiment.